

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 6 has been amended to change reference numeral “43” to --48--.

Attachment: 1 Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Preliminary Matters:

Dealing with preliminary matters first, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to priority and receipt of the priority document. Further, it is noted with appreciation that the Examiner has considered the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 22, 2006 and September 26, 2008.

Specification:

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract of the Disclosure because it contains header and follower information. Applicants submit herewith a revised Abstract. Applicant has also amended the specification to reference the PCT application.

Drawings:

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, specifically Figure 6. Figure 6 has been amended by changing reference character "43" to reference character --48--, as cited on page 14 of the specification.

Disposition of Claims:

Claims 1-21, 24 and 25 are all the claims pending in the application and have been rejected. Claims 1, 2, 10 and 18 have been amended herein.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103:

Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-21 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Krajewski (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0004842). In addition to the above anticipation of claims 1 and 10 by Krajewski, claims 7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) as being unpatentable over Krajewski in view of Stark (U.S. Patent No. 6,439,062). For the following reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Krajewski discloses a system which includes a calibrator 6 connected to a sampler 2. The sampler 2 has an air intake 3 which is normally open to the air. Applicants submit that Krajewski describes a calibrator for an air induction system for a personal air sampler rather than a device for testing a particular sampling point among a number of sampling points of an air sampling smoke detection system. The Krajewski citation seeks to measure overall air drawn through the system as opposed to the present invention that only looks at one sampling hole at a time, whilst other holes are still active.

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 to incorporate the content of original claim 8 and to further define that an extension means is used to enable the remote measurement. By introducing this amendment, Applicants are seeking to cover the embodiment as shown in Figure 3. It is commonly understood in the art that pollution monitoring and fire protection and suppression systems that operate by detecting the presence of smoke and other airborne pollutants are located at an elevated position above ground level. That is, the sampling pipe network as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 is generally located at or adjacent ceilings.

The use of an extension means advantageously enables measurements of elevated sample points to be conducted at or near ground level without the use of a ladder. The extension means itself is preferably an elongate tube and may, for example, be up to 6 metres in length (See, page 13, lines 17 and 18 of the specification).

Applicants respectfully submit that such a device or a method which incorporates the use of such a device are not taught by Krajewski. Thus, claims 1 and 2 and their respective dependent claims patentably distinguish over Krajewski.

Claim 10 has also been amended to introduce the extension means located between the flow sensor and the sampling inlet as is, therefore, patentable for the same reason.

With regard to claim 12, the Examiner argues that duct 4 is a "connector", that calibrator 6 is a "sensing device", that controller 1 is the "flow data storage", and that air intake 3 is the "extension means" of claim 12. Applicant submits that the "extension means", which must provide sealed fluid communication between the connector (duct 4) and the sensing device (calibrator 6) is not positioned in the location required to anticipate the claim.

Again, Applicants emphasize that Krajewski describes a personal air sampler and the extension means of the present invention is in no way taught or suggested by the Krajewski citation. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 12 is also patentable over Krajewski.

Claim 18 has also been amended to introduce the extension means discussed above.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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